

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MADRID 01545 240718 Z

12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-12 ADP-00 COA-02 INT-08 COME-00 EB-11

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12

PRS-01 CG-00 L-03 RSR-01 /099 W
----- 010351

R 231718 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5388

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS MADRID 1545

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PBOR SP MO

SUBJECT: SPANISH GOVT RESERVATIONS TO MOROCCAN " DAHIR"
EXTENDING FISHING JURISDICTION

1. OVER PAST SEVERAL DAYS, SPANISH PRESS HAS COMMENTED EXTENSIVELY ON MFA ANNOUNCEMENT REPORTED IN SPANISH PRESS MAR 17 THAT GOS HAD REGISTERED WITH RABAT FORMAL RESERVATIONS RE MEASURES IN DAHIR AFFECTING SPANISH FISHING ACTIVITIES IN WATERS NEAR MOROCCAN COAST. PRESS COMMENT HAS HOWEVER REFLECTED CONCILIATORY SPANISH POSTURE ON PROBLEM.

2. PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT IS LEAD ARTICLE MAR 22 IN MADRID DAILY ABC, (MONARCHIST) WHICH HAS CLOSE CONNEXIONS WITH THE SPANISH MFA. ARTICLE RECOGNIZED MOROCCAN CONCERN TO PRESERVE A VALUABLE NATURAL RESOURCE BUT GOES ON TO CITE PAST DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD WHERE COUNTRIES HAVE UNILATERALLY EXTENDED THEIR JURISDICTIONAL WATERS. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT (A) INTERNATIONAL CUSTOM PROVIDES BASIS FOR PERMITTING A COASTAL STATE TO ESTABLISH 12- MILE TERRITORIAL SEA; (B) HIGH SEA NEAR SPANISH AND MOROCCAN COASTS HAS BEEN, UNTIL ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO, SUBJECT TO INTERNATIONAL USE; (C) ALTHOUGH THERE IS STILL NO CODE GOVERNING FISHING IN THIS ZONE AND ALTHOUGH MOROCCO
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IS NOT A SIGNATORY OF 1958 CONVENTION, THERE ARE SUFFICIENT
JURIDICAL ANTECEDENTS TO CASE DOUBT ON LEGITIMACY OF
UNILATERAL EXTENSION OF WATERS FOR FISHING PURPOSES BEYOND
12 MILES; AND (D) SO, AND TO RESPECT POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL
AGREEMENTS WHICH MAY BE ADOPTED AT LOS CONVOKED FOR NEXT OCT,
FORMAL SPANISH RESERVE, WHICH DOES NOT PREJUDGE SOLUTIONS
AND LEAVES OPEN WAYS OF COOPERATION AT ALL LEVELS, SEEMS
FULLY JUSTIFIED.
RIVERO

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ADP090
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PAGE 01 TANANA 00415 240721 Z

10
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

OMB-ONG HE WILL LEAVE DEFENSE DEPT
IN CABINET SHAKE- UP.
MENDENHALL

CONFIDENTIAL

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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30 JUN 2005

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